

# Owners Manual



## Ride-on Mower **GRASS CATCHER**

MODEL No. 108 - 109

## PREFACE

### ***Congratulations on your purchase of a quality Australian made and owned ROVER product.***

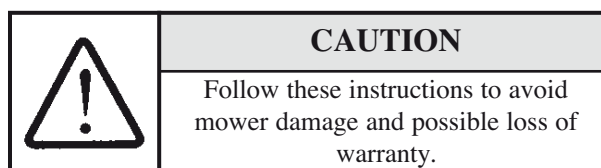
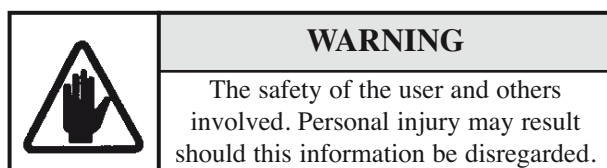
This manual covers the operation and maintenance of the **Rover Ride-on Mower Grass Catcher**.

Please read and understand this Owner's Manual before using this grass catcher.

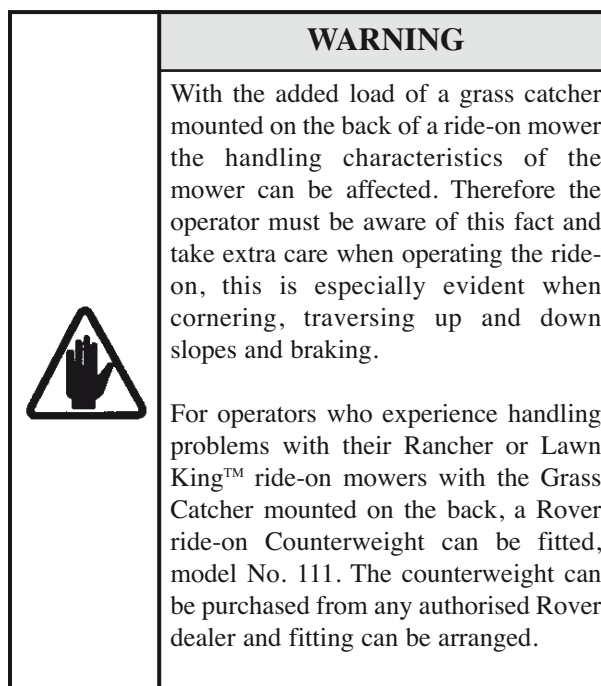
If any point is unclear, contact Rover Mowers Limited or any authorised Rover Mower Service Dealer.

Rover Mowers Limited reserves the right to make changes and improvements to its products at any time, without notice or obligation. The Company also reserves the right to discontinue the manufacture of any product at its discretion at any time.

To emphasise special information, the words WARNING and CAUTION are used.

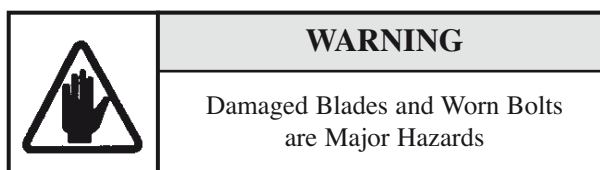


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## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- Know your controls. Read the Owners Manual carefully. Learn how to stop the engine quickly in any emergency.
- Do not allow children or people unfamiliar with these instructions to use the mower. Do not carry passengers.
- Make sure the lawn is clear of sticks, stones, bones, wire and debris. They could be thrown by the blade.
- Do not mow whilst people, especially children or pets are in the mowing area.
- Never mow across the face of the slope, unless the mower is designed for this purpose.
- Exercise extreme caution when on slopes.  
Reduce speed on slopes and in sharp turns to prevent overturning or loss of control.  
Do not stop or start suddenly when going uphill or downhill.
- Stay alert for holes in the terrain and other hidden hazards.  
Use care when pulling loads or using heavy equipment.
  - (a) use only approved drawbar hitch points
  - (b) limit loads to those you can safely control
  - (c) do not turn sharply
  - (d) use care when backing up, and
  - (e) use counterweight(s) or wheel weights when suggested in the owners manual.
- Watch out for traffic when crossing or operating the mower near roadways.
- Stop the blades rotating before crossing surfaces other than grass.
- When using any attachments, never direct discharge of material toward bystanders nor allow anyone near the machine while it is in operation.
- Before leaving the operator's position:
  - (a) disengage all clutches and secure cutting units
  - (b) change into neutral and set the parking brake, and
  - (c) stop the engine and remove the key.
- Stop the engine and disengage the drive to attachments:
  - (a) before refuelling
  - (b) before making height adjustment unless adjustment can be made from the operator's position
  - (c) before clearing blockages
  - (d) before checking, cleaning or working on the mower
  - (e) after striking a foreign object (*inspect the mower for damage and make repairs before restarting and operating the equipment*) and
  - (f) if machine starts to vibrate abnormally (*check immediately*).
- Disengage the drive to the attachments when transporting or not in use.
- A mower operator should be in good physical and mental health and not under the influence of any drug or alcohol which might impair vision, co-ordination of judgement.
- Never mow while barefoot or wearing open sandals or thongs. Wear long trousers and heavy shoes.
- It is advisable to wear suitable eye protection when operating a mower.
- Mow only in good daylight.
- Before using, always visually inspect to see that the blades, blade bolts and cutter assembly are not worn or damaged.  
(*Replace worn or damaged blades and bolts in sets to preserve balance*).



- Check all nuts, bolts and screws often. Always be sure the mower is in a safe operating condition.
- Keep safety devices (*guards and switches*) in place and in working order.
- Never use the mower unless the grass catcher or guards provided by the manufacturer are in position.
- Ensure that any spare parts used comply with the original manufacturer's recommendations and specifications.
- Replace worn or faulty silencer.
- Keep engine free of grass, leaves or excessive grease. These can be a fire hazard.
- Refuel outdoors only. Do not smoke while refuelling engine. Never remove the cap of the fuel tank or add petrol while the engine is running or the engine is hot. Remove the fuel cap slowly to relieve any tank pressure. If petrol is spilled, do not attempt to start the engine but move the machine away from the area of the spill and avoid creating any source of ignition until the petrol vapours have dissipated.
- Check for fuel leaks while refuelling or using the mower. If a fuel leak is found, do not start or run the engine until the fuel leak is fixed and spilled fuel is wiped away.
- Do not operate the engine in a confined space where exhaust fumes (*carbon monoxide*) can collect.
- Always mount the mower on the opposite side to the discharge chute.
- Stop the engine whenever you leave the mower, even for a moment.
- Store the mower in a well ventilated room away from naked flames such as may be found in hot water heaters.
- Do not lend or sell the mower without the Owner's Manual.

The **Rover Ride-on Mower Grass Catcher** has been designed to be fitted to and used with the Rover Rancher™, Raider™ and Lawn King™, fitted with either the 30" or the 38" pressed steel cutterheads.


The correct model grass catcher to suit the Rover Rancher™, Raider™ and Lawn King™ models and cutterhead combination can be selected from the "*Grass Catcher Selection Chart*" (See Section 1.1 below)

Some Rover Ride-on Mowers will need to have a towbar fitted and/or the use of a different mount support bracket before the Rover Grass Catcher can be correctly mounted. These mowers are identified in the chart below by an asterisk \*

## 1. SETTING UP

### 1.1 Grass Catcher Selection

Rover Ride-on Mower	Model No.	Cutterhead Model No.	Catcher Model No.	Towbar Model 110 Required	Mount Support Bracket A12942
Rancher Selector Drive™	17166	180 198	108 109		* *
Rancher Selector Drive™	17188	180 198	108 109		* *
Rancher Selector Drive™	All model 271**	180 198	108 109	* *	
Rancher Auto Drive™	18166	180 198	108 109		* *
Rancher Auto Drive™	18188	180 198	108 109		* *
Rancher Auto Drive™	All model 281**	180 198	108 109	* *	
Rancher Hydro™	All model 282**	180	108	*	
Raider™	4078	180	108	*	
Lawn King™ (Hydro)	2950	180 198	108 109		
Lawn King™ (Hydro)	All model 292**	180 198	108 109		

	<b>WARNING</b>
	The Rover Grass Catcher Models 108 and 109 are designed for front engine ride-on mowers <b>ONLY!</b> <b>DO NOT FIT</b> 108/109 Grass Catchers to rear engine mowers.

*Before proceeding with the assembly of the grass catcher, remove the loose parts kit from the carton.*

### 1.2 Loose parts kit - Model 108 (30" Cutterhead)

Item	No. Supplied
Transfer tube	1
Chute Assembly	1
Rod-outlet chute	1
Fan discs assembly	1
Grass catcher assembly	1
Support bracket	1
Owner's manual	1
Side frame	2
Spreader	1
Bolt - 3/8 x 1" unc.	2
Nycloc nut - 3/8" unc.	3
Nyloc nut - 1/4" unc.	4
Screw - 3/16" x 1" unc. RH.	4
Nyloc nut - 3/16" unc.	4
Washer - 3/8" flat	2

### 1.3 Loose parts kit - Model 109 (38" Cutterhead)

Item	No. Supplied
Transfer tube	1
Chute Assembly	1
Rod-outlet chute	1
Grass catcher assembly	1
Support bracket	1
Owner's manual	1
Side frame	2
Spreader	1
Bolt - 3/8" x 1"	2
Nycloc nut - 3/8" unc.	3
Nyloc nut - 1/4" unc.	4
Screw - 3/16" x 1" unc RH.	4
Nyloc nut - 3/16" unc.	4
Skirt	1
Bolt - 5/16" x 3/4" cuphead	2
Washer - 5/16" flat	2
Nyloc nut - 5/16" unc.	2
Washer - 3/8" flat	4

## 2. RETROFITTING

### 2.1 Cutterhead modifications - (Model 180 cutterhead only)


**All Rover Ride-on Mowers manufactured before September 1989** must be modified to take advantage of the Rover Ride-on Mower Grass Catcher i.e.:

**Rancher™ 12hp Auto-Drive** Model: 1866/180  
Cutterhead modifications

**Rancher™ 12hp Selector Drive** Model: 1766/180  
Cutterhead modifications

This modification allows maximum air velocity to be achieved at the outlet chute necessary for the grass catcher to effectively collect grass cuttings.

These modifications involve the cutting of air intake ports into the top of the Model 180 (30") cutterhead and welding in stiffeners.

	<b>CAUTION</b>
	<p>Modifications to the cutterhead must be carried out by an Authorised Rover Service Dealer or Warranty on products will be void.</p>


## 3. ASSEMBLY

### 3.1 Towbar Installation (Refer to Selection Chart - Section 1.1)

A towbar may need to be fitted to some models of the Rover Rancher™ and Raider™ Ride-on Mower to facilitate the mounting of the **Ride-on Mower Grass Catcher**.

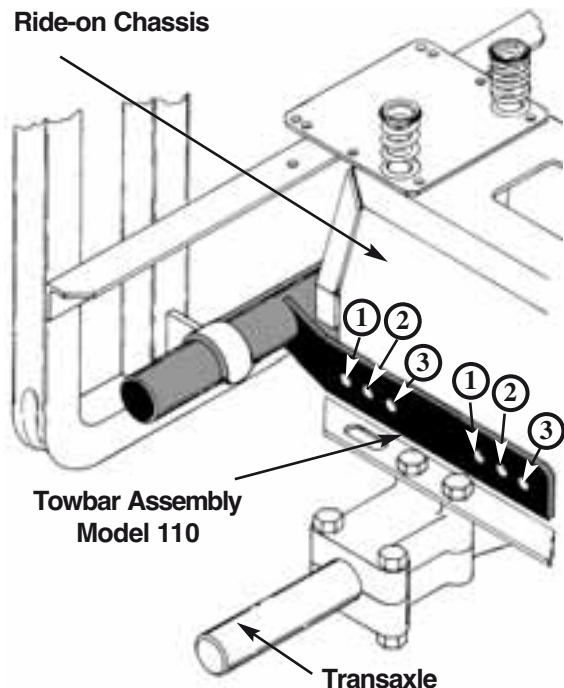
The mounting position of the rear bumper bar varies between models of Rover ride-on mowers. Due to this configuration the rear bumper bar model 110 has three sets of mounting holes in the side mounting flanges, which suit all front engine Ranchers™ and Lawnking™ mowers currently manufactured by Rover. (Refer to Figure 3.1).

The Rear Bumper Bar Model 110 is fitted as a standard feature on the Lawn King™ and is an option on Rancher™ Ride-ons and the Raider™ Ride-on.

	<b>CAUTION</b>
	<p>Towbar brackets have 3 sets of holes per side. Lawn King has the towbar fitted as standard.</p>

1. Slide the towbar over the rear of the chassis with the side brackets pointing upwards.
2. Align the holes in the towbar side brackets with the holes in the rear of the chassis. Retain the towbar with the four bolts, shakeproof washers and nuts supplied.

**Ride-on Chassis**



**Figure 3.1 - Towbar Installation**

#### Towbar mounting holes

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ① | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rancher™ Selector Drive, Auto Drive.</li> <li>• Raider™ Ride-ons.</li> </ul>     |
| ② | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rancher™ Hydro.</li> <li>• Lawn King™ ride-ons - 18" DIA. Rear Tyres.</li> </ul> |
| ③ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lawn King™ ride-ons - 20" DIA. Rear Tyres.</li> </ul>                            |



### 3.2 Installing the Support Bracket

The Grass Catcher mount support plate part No: A12666 has four sets of mounting holes to suit all front engine Rover ride-on mowers currently manufactured by Rover. Refer figures 3.2a and 3.3b.

To fit the grass catcher to 17 and 18 series Rover ride-on mowers the support mount plate supplied with the grass catcher has to be replaced with the support mount plate part No: A12942 which can be purchased from any Authorised Rover Service Dealer.

1. Tilt the mower seat forward.
2. Remove the seat springs / buffers from the mower by unbolting the centre retaining bolt and nut.
3. Position the support bracket over the two seat spring/buffer mounting holes. Retain the support bracket by replacing the seat springs/buffer and retaining nuts. (Figure 3.2a)

#### Mounting Holes - Support Bracket to Chassis

Refer figure 3.2b.

- ① • Lawn King™ - fitted with 20" Rear Tyre
- ② • Rancher™ Auto, Selector & Hydro Drive Raider™  
Lawnking™ - 18" Rear Tyres.

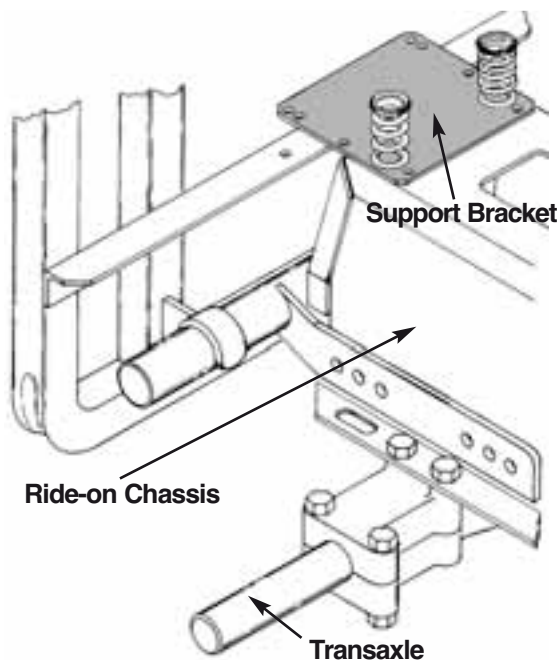


Figure 3.2a - Towbar Installation

#### Grass Catcher Mount Support Plate Holes

- ③ • Rancher™ Selector Drive and Auto Drive.  
Raider™
- ④ • Rancher™ Hydro.  
Lawn King™ 18" and 20" Rear Tyres.

### 3.3 Installing the fan disc assembly Model 180 (30" Cutterhead only)



#### CAUTION

Modifications to the cutterhead must be carried out by an Authorised Rover Service Dealer or Warranty on products will be void.

1. Raise the front of the ride-on and support so as to give access to the cutterhead disc.
2. Remove the existing cutter disc by unbolting the four 3/8" unf. setscrews which hold the cutter disc to the disc boss assembly.
3. Locate the new Fan Disc Assembly supplied with the grass catcher and fit this to the cutterhead assembly in place of the cutter disc removed in Step 2.
4. Attach the Fan disc assembly to the disc boss assembly using four 3/8" unf. setscrews. Torque these setscrews to 46 Nm. (35Ft/lbs).
5. Four fluted blades should be fitted to the Fan disc assembly to maximise grass cutting and collecting. These fluted blades are available from Rover service dealers and agents.
6. Lower the ride-on to the ground and check the cutterhead tilt and level, as per the Ride-on Owners Manual.

### 3.4 Blade Installation

#### Model 198 (38" Cutterhead)

1. Raise the cutterhead to the high cut position.
2. Raise the front of the ride-on to give access to the cutterhead discs and blades.
3. Remove the existing blades and replace with four fluted blades using new blade bolts, washers and nuts, on each disc. Fluted blades are available from Rover service dealers and agents.

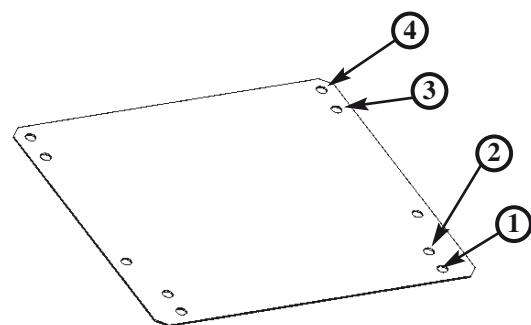


Figure 3.2b Support Bracket

### 3.5 Installing the Support Bracket

The Grass Catcher is supported off the rear towbar of the Rover Rancher™, Raider™ and Lawn King™ ride-on mowers. Refer figure 3.3.

1. Lift the grass catcher assembly onto the mower, positioning the support saddles on the rear towbar on the mower.
2. Secure the grass catcher to the support bracket by two 3/8" x 1" unc bolts and 3/8" unc nyloc nuts. Placing a 3/8" flat washer under the nut and bolt head.

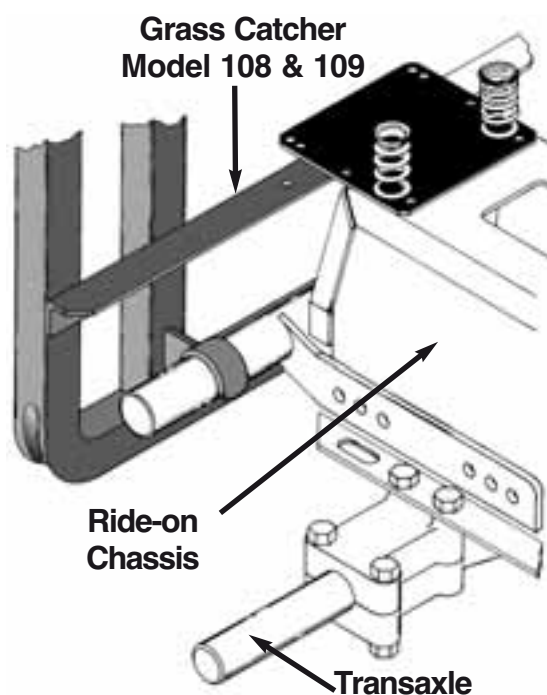


Figure 3.3 - Grass Catcher Support



Figure 3.4 - Mounting the Catcher Assembly

### 3.6 Frame Assembly

The internal frame assembly consists of the two side frames (A) and spreader plate (B).

These components are fastened together using 3/16" x 1" round head screws (C) and 3/16" unc. nyloc nuts (D) (Refer Figure 3.5).

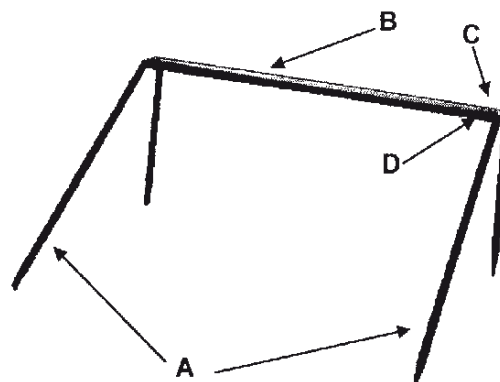


Figure 3.5 - Internal Frame Assembly

### 3.7 Frame Installation

1. With the grass catcher assembly mounted on the mower, open up the grass catcher fully. To hold the grass catcher open, tighten the pivot bolts. (Refer Figure 3.6)
2. Insert the internal frame assembly (A) into the grass catcher, aligning the mounting holes on the internal frame over the locating bolts on the catcher assembly.
3. Secure using four 1/4" nyloc nuts (B). (Refer Figure 3.6)
4. Loosen the two pivot bolts so that the catcher bag assembly swings easily.

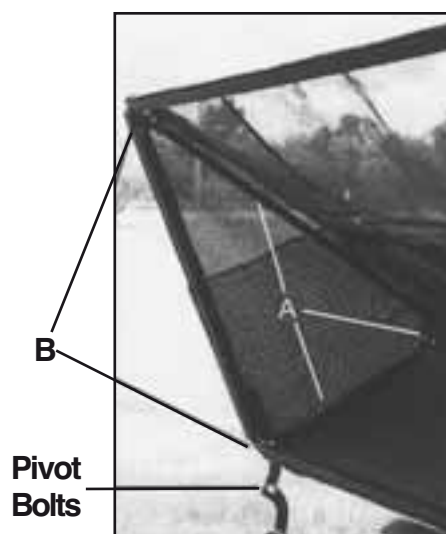



Figure 3.6 - Frame Installation

### 3.8 Outlet Chute Installation

	<b>WARNING</b>
	<p>When working on the cutterhead the mower must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stationary with the park brake applied.</li> <li>• The engine switched off.</li> <li>• The ignition key removed.</li> </ul>

1. Raise the stone guard (A) fitted to the mower cutterhead and slip the tongue (B) of the outlet chute between the stone guard and the mower cutterhead.  
(Refer Figure 3.7)
2. Lower the cutterhead stone guard (A) and slide the outlet chute rod (C) into the tongue of the outlet chute.
3. Retain the outlet chute rod by fitting the small spring clip (D) into the eye of the rod.

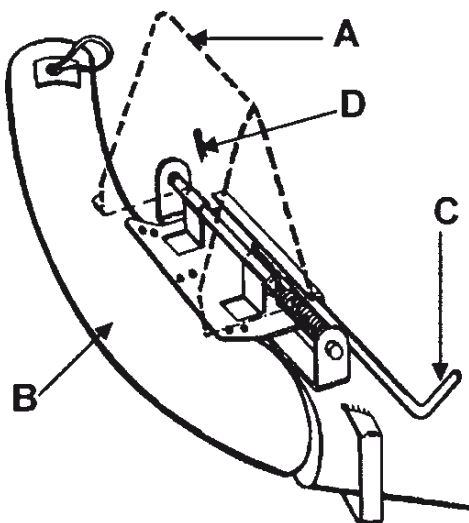


Figure 3.7 - Outlet Chute Installation

### 3.9 Grass Transfer Tube

1. Hold the grass transfer tube by the handle (A) and slide the tube into the opening in the front panel of the grass catcher front plate. Then slide the tube forward over the open end of the outlet chute till it engages with the stop on the outlet chute.  
(Refer Figure 3.8)
2. Retain the tube by clipping the elasticised strap (B) on the outlet chute over the retaining button on the transfer tube (C).  
(Refer Figure 3.8)

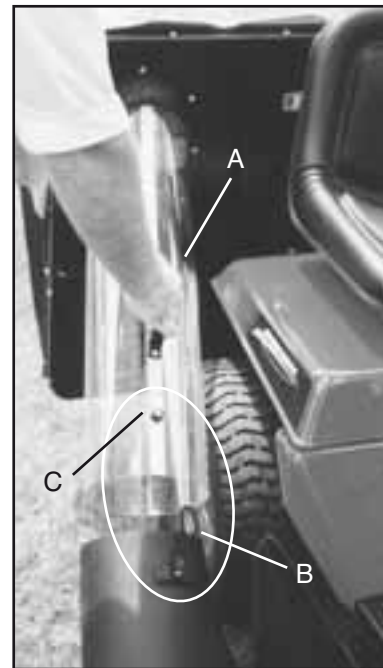


Figure 3.8 - Fitting the Transfer Tube

### 3.10 Skirt Installation - (Model 198 cutterhead only)

1. Raise the cutterhead of the mower to the highest cut position.
2. Position the skirt on the underside of the front of the cutterhead and attach using the two 5/16" x 3/4" cuphead bolts (A), pushed in from the underside of the cutterhead so that the flat washer (B) and nyloc nut (C) are on the top side of the cutterhead.  
(Refer Figure 3.9)

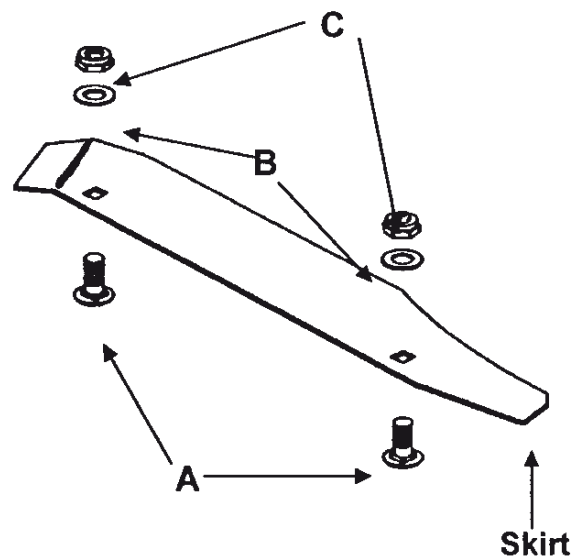



Figure 3.9 - Skirt Installation



## 4. OPERATION

### 4.1 To Collect the Grass

1. Ensure that the outlet chute and transfer tube are correctly positioned in accordance with the procedures in Section 3.8 and 3.9.
2. Select the required height of cut on the ride-on mower.
  - (a) On the first usage of the grass catcher, the grass to be cut and collected should be taken down to the required length over several stages. This will reduce overload on the grass catcher outlet chute.
  - (b) Once an area has been cut and the grass has been collected, this area should be regularly mowed to maintain an even grass length.
3. Select the ground speed on the ride-on mower.
  - (a) Initially a slow speed will have to be used with the grass catcher to assist in grass pickup and improve efficiency.
  - (b) Once the grass catcher has been used on an area which is regularly maintained the ground speed may be increased.
4. When cutting grass and using the grass catcher try to maintain an even ground speed over the area being cut and collected. This ensures a continuous flow of cut grass being deposited into the catcher.
5. When cutting and catching wet or damp grass it is advisable to reduce the ground speed of the mower. Clogging of either the outlet chute or the transfer tube may occur if ground speed is too fast under these conditions.
6. If the outlet chute or transfer tube should clog, clear as follows:
  - (a) Disengage the cutterhead drive.
  - (b) Shift the speed selector to neutral.
  - (c) Apply the parking brake.


	<b>WARNING</b>
	Switch the engine off. Remove the ignition key.

- (d) Remove the transfer tube and outlet chute.
  - (e) Clear the blockage.
7. Where possible, mow in an anticlockwise direction to avoid objects lying in the grass, which could damage the outlet chute, transfer tube or grass catcher.

8. When turning your mower, with the grass catcher mounted on your ride-on mower, always visually check that the grass catcher will not collide with any obstruction that could damage it.
9. When using the grass catcher, check the transfer tube from time to time to ensure that grass is being collected and flowing up the grass transfer tube.
10. It is recommended that the cutterhead cutting discs be fitted with fluted blades for maximum grass cutting and catching efficiency. Fluted blades are available from Rover service agents and dealers.

### 4.2 Emptying the Grass Catcher

1. Disengage the cutter drive on the mower when the grass catcher is full or the area to be cut and collected is complete.
2. Select a suitable site where the cut grass is to be emptied and proceed to the selected site.

	<b>WARNING</b>
	Shift the speed selector on the mower to neutral and apply the parking brake.


3. Dismount from the mower and empty the grass catcher by opening the catcher, using the strap at the back of the grass catcher. (Refer Figure 4.1)



**Figure 4.1 - Emptying the Grass Catcher**


5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning the Grass Catcher

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WARNING</b></p> <p>The mower must be stationary with the park brake applied, the engine switched off and the ignition key removed.</p>
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- 1. Hose down the outside of the grass catcher to keep it free of debris and any build-up of grass or dirt
- 2. Open up the grass catcher and hose the inside of the grass catcher to prevent any build-up of dirt within the mesh of the grass catcher. This could effect the free flow of exhausted air from within the grass catcher.

5.2 Cleaning the Transfer Tube

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CAUTION</b></p> <p>Do not use any powder abrasive cleaners or solvents (kerosene, petrol, etc.) to clean the transfer tube as these scratch and damage its clarity.</p>
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Wash out the inside of the transfer tube with a mild liquid detergent and dry to maintain the transparency of the tube.

5.3 General

- 1. After each day’s use, the ride-on mower should be cleaned down. Paying particular attention to the build-up of any foreign matter around the air intake ports in the top of the cutterhead and around the engine exhaust pipe and muffler.
- 2. Check the condition of the safety instruction decals on the grass catcher and the transfer tube and replace any that become difficult to read.
- 3. Inspect the grass catcher lining for signs of wear and tear caused by the conditions under which it is used. If and when a replacement grass catcher lining is required, replacement grass catcher linings are available from Rover Authorised dealers and service agents.

**NOTES**

# Warranty Conditions

## AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND ONLY

Rover Mowers Limited warrant that this machine is free from defects in material and workmanship. This warranty is limited to making good or replacing any part which appears upon inspection by the manufacturer or his agent to be defective in material or workmanship.

The engine used to power this machine is warranted by the manufacturer whose warranty statement has been included with the machine. As the warranty for the engine may differ from the warranty for the other components, you are advised to read the engine manufacturer's warranty carefully

For other items this warranty shall apply for a period of 12 months from the date of purchase except for products used commercially where the warranty is limited to 90 days.

This warranty does not obligate the manufacturer, his agents or dealers to bear the transport costs incurred in the repair or replacement of any defective part.

This warranty excludes fair wear and tear, or any damage caused by misuse or abuse. Parts such as blades, blade bolts, v-belts and spark plugs, which can be subjected to use beyond their normal intended working capacity are also excluded.

This warranty is void if parts other than genuine have been used or if repairs or alterations have been made without the manufacturer's written authority.

The above warranty does not exclude any condition or warranty implied by the Trade Practices Act 1974 or any other relevant legislation which implies any condition which cannot be excluded.

**REMEMBER:**  
**PROOF OF PURCHASE IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER AND IS NECESSARY PRIOR TO WARRANTY WORK BEING UNDERTAKEN. REPAIRS MUST BE CARRIED OUT BY AN AUTHORISED ROVER DEALER /SERVICE AGENT AND GENUINE SPARE PARTS MUST BE USED OR YOUR WARRANTY WILL BE VOID.**

### For your record:

Dealer's Name: .....

Dealer's Address: .....

Dealer's Phone No: .....

Product Model No: .....

Product Serial No: .....

Date of Purchase: .....



Quality  
Endorsed  
Company

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Rover Mowers Limited reserves the right to make changes of and add improvements upon its product at any time without notice or obligation. The Company also reserves the right to discontinue manufacture of any product at its discretion at any time.

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